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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

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Washington 25, D. C.

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18 November 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL LEMAY  
GENERAL WHEELER  
ADMIRAL McDONALD  
GENERAL SHOUP

Subject: Chinese Nuclear Development

1. Much has been written on the emergence of Communist China as a nuclear power and its potential effects upon the world. Thought has been given as to how we might combat Chinese employment of their nuclear capability in Asia and how we might deter them from using their capability once it has been acquired. Nothing has been written, so far as I know, on how we can prevent or delay the Chinese from succeeding in their nuclear development program.

2. That is the purpose of the attached paper. It has its basis in the fact that nuclear development, at best, is fraught with troubles - technological, scientific, economic and industrial. If these inherent problems are intensified by a coordinated program of covert activities, there is reason to believe that the date on which the Chinese nuclear program matures may be materially deferred.

3. Due to the very sensitive nature of the subject and of the proposals set forth in the paper, only one copy of the paper is being delivered personally to each Chief. Following discussion by the Joint Chiefs of Staff all papers shall be collected. This subject will appear on the agenda as "Unconventional Warfare Program BRAVO."

*Maxwell D. Taylor*  
MAXWELL D. TAYLOR  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff